### Western Great Basin 2001 Fire Season Overview

### **Weather and Fuels**

For most of Nevada, 2001 was the driest water year since the 1870's. In the western third of the state, precipitation and snow pack amounts for October through March were less than 70% of normal. The exception to this pattern was southern Nevada, where water totals were 132% of normal for the same period. The other major weather factor influencing the 2001 season was the continued warm temperatures, which sometimes were up to 10 degrees above normal. It was the third year in a row for such warm, dry conditions.

With snow accumulations limited and, once again, confined to the upper elevations, there was minimal compaction of the grasses, and residual loadings of fine fuels remained throughout much of northern Nevada. Windy conditions combined with record high temperatures and well below normal relative humidity values in May to dry out the fuels at a rapid rate. By early June, the fine fuels had cured below the 6,000 ft. level (about a month ahead of normal). Campfire and smoking restrictions went into effect June 11<sup>th</sup>, 4-5 weeks earlier than usual. Reports from the Warrior fire in late May were that fire behavior was more typical of August.

A very heavy crop of annual grasses and forbs in southeastern and extreme southern Nevada created concern for a severe fire season in those areas, but monsoonal flow brought significant amounts of rain in early July, dramatically reducing fire activity for the remainder of the season.

Northern Nevada remained in a deficit precipitation situation throughout the season. From mid-June into October, NFDRS Burning Indices at most of the stations throughout northern Nevada were at or near maximum levels, and all fuels supported very active fire spread and high resistance to control. Although fuel conditions remained conducive to large fire activity into October, fire occurrence tapered off as the number of ignitions decreased, the days became shorter, and the nights became cooler and more humid.

### **Large Fire Activity**

With heavy fire activity occurring throughout the West, fewer resources were available for prepositioning and active fires again this year. Despite this, initial attack efforts were successful 95% of the time, with only 5% of the fires reaching 300+ acres in size.

All but 5 of this year's large fires were lightning caused. The first large fire of the year began May 11<sup>th</sup> on Carson City BLM land. After one more large fire in late May, there was a lull in large fire activity until the first week of July, when dry lightning touched off numerous large fires in northern Nevada. The greatest concentration (40%) of large fire activity occurred as a result of lightning during the 2-week period from August 6-19. These fires were responsible for 457,060 acres burned, 75% of the total acreage burned by large fires during the entire season. The last large fire of the season was contained on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. By that date, 69 large fires had burned a total of 601,485 acres (all agencies plus private). This compares to an average of 71 large fires occurring each year from 1996 to 2000. As is generally the case, large fires make up the majority of the total acreage burned; in 2001, large fires accounted for 92% of the total acres burned.

Large fire workload by dispatch center was as follows:

Dispatch Center	# of Large Fires	# of Acres Burned
Elko Interagency Dispatch Center	26	301,402
Central Nevada Interagency Dispatch Center	24	236,961
Sierra Front Interagency Dispatch Center	7	44,886
Ely Interagency Communication Center	12	18,236

### **Incident Management Teams**

Three-quarters as many Incident Management Team (IMT) mobilizations occurred within the Western Great Basin Area in 2001 as in 2000, and IMT use was at roughly half the level seen in 1999. In all, 15 Type 2 IMT assignments occurred, but there were no Type 1 IMT assignments within the Area. Teams from outside of the Great Basin filled 2 of these assignments (for a total of 10 days), and the 2 Western Great Basin IMTs filled 7 of the assignments (for a total of 53 days).

Western Great Basin incidents with Incident Management Teams assigned can be broken down as follows:

Agency	# of Large Fires	# of Team Assignments
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	53	11
U.S. Forest Service (USFS)	5	3
Nevada (State) Division of Forestry (NDF)	8	0
BIA/Tribe	2	1
National Park Service (NPS)	1	0

### **Historical Comparison**

The 2001 season ranks fourth (behind 1999, 1996 and 2000) among the past 15 years for the largest number of acres affected by fire. At 1,277, the total number of fires was 125% of the 5-year average of 1,021 fires, while the total of 654,253 acres burned was 94% of the 5-year average of 699,316 acres.

#### Fire Rehabilitation Efforts

In 2001, Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation Teams were formed at 4 Field Offices to develop mitigation and rehabilitation plans for 74 fires. Resource damages in total acres were similar to the 2000 fire season, with a total of 204,430 acres planned for re-seeding. The mild and wet conditions expected for the Winter and Spring of 2002 should create optimum growing conditions to support re-seeding efforts, as well as continuing to support the rehabilitation efforts of 2000 and 2001.

# Western Great Basin Area 2001 Fire Statistical Summary

(as of 11/01/01)

	Fires	oy Cause	Acres	by Cause	Total	Total
Unit/Agency	Human	Lightning	Human	Lightning	Fires	Acres
Eastern Nevada Agency	2	4	3	2,240	6	2,243
Western Nevada Agency	10	3	228	6,511	13	6,739
Duck Valley Tribe	5	2	30	50	7	80
Bureau of Indian Affairs/Tribes	17	9	261	8,801	26	9,062
Elko Field Office	23	146	1,391	280,243	169	281,634
Winnem ucca Field Office	46	68	43,461	177,245	114	220,706
Carson City Field Office	39	62	788	30,914	101	31,702
Ely Field Office	19	289	246	16,014	308	16,260
Las Vegas Field Office	7	34	183	38	41	221
Battle Mountain Field Office	15	73	12	2,015	88	2,027
Bureau of Land Management*	149	672	46,081	506,469	821	552,550
Ruby Lake NWR	0	2	0	1	2	1
Fallon & Stillwater NWRs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pahranagat, Desert, Ash Meadows & Moapa NWRs	1	1	0	0	2	0
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	1	3	0	1	4	1
Great Basin National Park	0	6	0	709	6	709
Lake Mead NRA	10	0	103	0	10	103
National Park Service	10	6	103	709	16	812
Northern Region	48	94	1,219	28,448	142	29,667
Western Region	10	6	89	285	16	374
Southern Region	1	0	0	0	1	0
Nevada Division of Forestry**	59	100	1,308	28,733	159	30,041
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF (⊟ko area)	1	12	0	7,644	13	7,644
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF (Winnemucca area)	2	1	41,831	0	3	41,831
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF (Sierra Front & central NV)	28	85	10,347	47	113	10,394
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF (Ely area)	1	26	0	1,823	27	1,823
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF (Las Vegas area)	49	45	41	54	94	95
U.S. Forest Service	81	169	52,219	9,568	250	61,787
Department of Defense (Nellis AFB)	0	1	0	0	1	0
Department of Energy (Nevada Test Site)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Federal	0	1	0	0	1	0
Geographic Area Totals	317	960	99,972	554,281	1,277	654,253

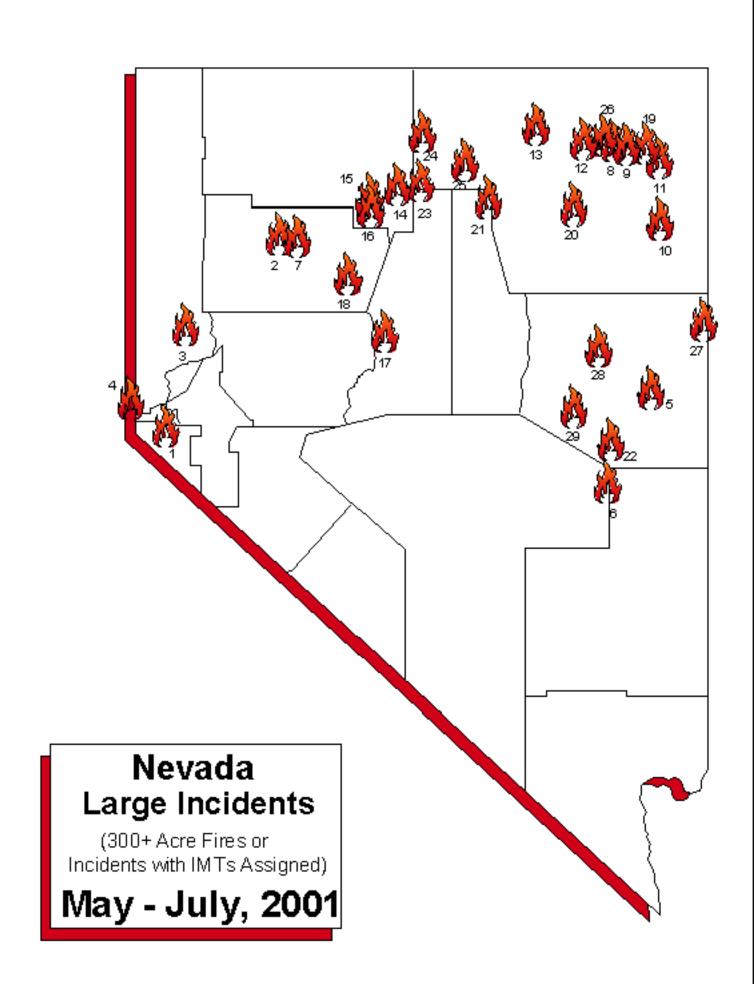
# 2000 Prescribed Fire Activity

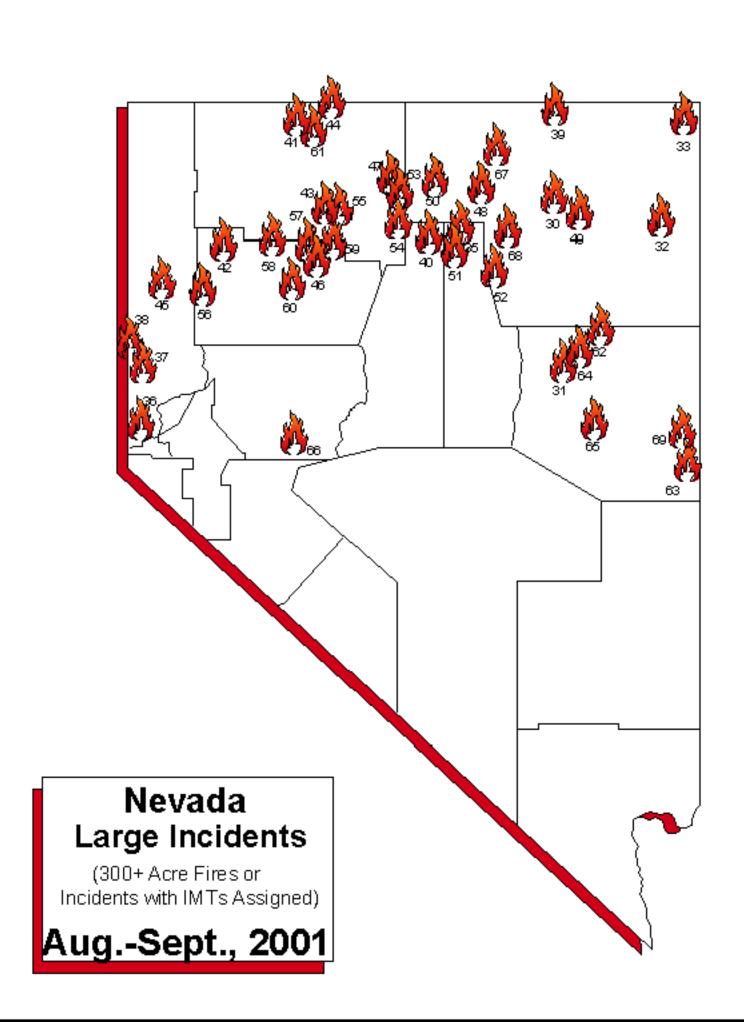
	Prescribed F	ire/Mechanical	Wildland Fire Use			
Agency/Unit	Fires	Acres	Fires	Acres		
Eastern Nevada Agency	0	0	2	0		
Bureau of Indian Affairs	0	0	2	0		
Elko Field Office	1	600	0	0		
Winnem ucca Field Office	4	472	0	0		
Carson City Field Office	7	230	0	0		
Ely Field Office	6	6,062	42	8,593		
Las Vegas Field Office	3	68	0	0		
Battle Mountain Field Office	3	8,757	0	0		
Bureau of Land Management	21	7,432	42	8,593		
Ruby Lake NWR	2	3,765	0	0		
Pahranagat/Desert NWRs	0	0	0	0		
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	2	3,765	0	0		
Great Basin NP	0	0	1	618		
Lake Mead NRA	1	0	0	0		
National Park Service	1	0	1	618		
Northern Region	0	0	0	0		
Western Region	0	0	0	0		
Southern Region	0	0	0	0		
Nevada Division of Forestry	0	0	0	0		
Humboldt-Toiyabe NF	2	182	0	0		
U.S. Forest Service	2	182	0	0		
Geographic Area Totals	26	11,379	45	9,211		

	Western Great Basin Large Fires for 2001 (as of 9/27/01)													
Dispatch Center	Map Ref #	Incident Name	Number	Agency	Lati	tude	Longi	tude	Size	Contain Date	IMT Assigned	IMT Type	Cause	Significant Impacts
EIDC	8	Metropolis	N2020015	NDF-NNS	41	15	115	00	1,200	7/6/01			Lightning	Threa ts to wild life, grazing, and the Ca lifornia T rail.
	9	Bishop	N2020033	NDF-NNS	41	15	114	53	2,995	7/6/01			Lightning	Grouse habitat threatened.
	10	Neptune	X155	BLM-EKD	40	38	114	42	1,715	7/6/01			Lightning	Threats to winter wildlife h abitat.
		West Pequops Complex:									Burdick	2		
	11	West Pequop	X157	BLM-EKD	41	10	114	42	4,031	7/6/01			Lightning	Wildlife habitat (Elk, Deer, and Sage Grouse) and Elk guzzlers threatened.
	19	Wine Cup	X169	BLM-EKD	41	22	114	43	9,345	7/6/01			Lightning	Threa ts to wild life habita t, livestoc k/rang e, and the Ca lifornia Trail.
		Isolation Complex:									Saleen	2		
	12	Isolated	X160	BLM-EKD	41	17	115	20	14,032	7/7/01			Lightning	Grazing allotments, ranch residences and improvements, cultural sites, and Lahontan Cutthroat Trout habitat threatened.
	13	Double Mtn.	X162	BLM-EKD	41	27	115	41	4,500	7/5/01			Lightning	Grazing allotments and cultural sites threatened.
	20	Egbert	N2020036	NDF-NNS	40	49	115	25	1,252	7/6/01			Lightning	Threats to grazing a llotment(s).
	21	Maggie Creek	N2020052	NDF-NNS	40	51	116	10	11,455	7/6/01			Lightning	
	23	Valmy	X226	BLM-EKD	40	59	116	59	510	7/20/01			Lightning	
	25	Mud Springs	X228	BLM-EKD	41	06	116	31	545	7/21/01			Lightning	Threats to wildlife habitat.
	26	Tabor Creek	X231	BLM-EKD	41	24	115	04	7,005	7/31/01	Murphy	2	Lightning	Threats to livestock/grazing, wildlife habitat and a power line.
	30	Stag	X246	BLM-EKD	41	19	115	29	20,000	8/9/01	Burdick	2	Lightning	Threats to mule deer winter range, elk and antelope habitat, and grazing allotments. 11 cattle confirmed killed.
	32	Delano	X257	BLM-EKD	41	46	114	17	8,828	8/8/01	Broyles	2	Lightning	Threats to an archeological site, sage grouse habitat, elk and deer habitat, and grazing allotments.
	33	MM 367	X256	BLM-EKD	40	59	114	38	660	8/8/01			Lightning	
	35	Rodeo Creek	N2020054	NDF-NNS	40	57	116	30	6,100	8/10/01			Lightning	Threats to deer, chuckar habitat, and grazing.
	39	Murphy	P44629	USFS-HTF	41	53	115	34	7,510	8/12/01	Broyles	2	Lightning	Threat to crucial elk and mule deer winter range, Bruneau River watershed, and air quality over Jarbidge Wilderness. 7,252 acres USFS, 258 acres state.
		Sheep Complex									Burdick	2		
	40	Sheep	X275	BLM-EKD	40	20	116	51	82,000	8/13/01			Lightning	Threat to cultural resources, grazing lands, isolated ranches, microw ave/FA A towers, and wildlife habitat.
	48	Coyote	X284	BLM-EKD	41	06	116	11	11,675	8/17/01			Lightning	Threat to ranch structures, deer winler range, sage grouse habitat and grazing.
	49	Starr Valley	N2020292	NDF-NNS	40	59	115	14	3,000	8/14/01			Lightning	Threats to wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, 8 ranches and a community cemetery. Fire was almost exclusively on private land.
	50	Buffalo Complex:									Conrad (CA)	2		
		Buffalo	X286	BLM-EKD	41	17	116	40	21,158	8/16/01			Lightning	In addition to the threats listed under the Hot Lake fire, this fire also threatened a historic school, mine, power lines, and the Little HumboldtWSA.
		Hot Lake	X305	BLM-EKD	41	06	116	43		8/17/01			Lightning	Threat to 65 residences and 20 outbuildings, Bighorn sheep habitat, livestock, grazing lands, Rock Creek WHMA, fences, and sage grouse habitat and leks.
	51	Dunphy	N2020284	NDF-NNS	40	42	116	28	7,453	8/13/01			Lightning	
	52	Bailey	X297	BLM-EKD	40	26	116	04	1,000	8/13/01			Lightning	
	67	PX	N2020234	NDF-NNS	41	32	115	53	420	9/5/01	_		Human	Threats to haystacks, winter hay meadows, and ranch structures.
	68	Shale	X334	BLM-EKD	40	51	115	51	1,079	9/5/01			Human	Threats to deer habitat, power poles, and phone lines.

					Weste	ern Grea	ıt Basiı	ո Larg	e Fires for 2	001		
Dispatch	Мар	Incident Name						Conta in		IMT		
Center	Ref #	Inda. Comment	1000	Agency	Latitude	Longitude	Size	Date	IMT Assigned	Type	Cause	Significa nt Impa cts
CNIDC	2	Imlay Summit	J362	BLM-WID	40 47	118 30	656	5/25/01			Lightning	Threats to rangeland and cultural sites.  Threats to mule deer habitat, watershed, and a historic mine
	7	Standard	J379	BLM-WID	40 28	118 18	1,280	7/6/01			Human	site.
	14	Valmy II	J381	BLM-WID	40 56	117 13	350	7/5/01			Lightning	
	15	Adelaide	J384	BLM-WID	40 47	117 25	642	7/6/01			Lightning	Adelaide Mine threatened.
	16	Tipton	J385	BLM-WID	40 43	117 27	2,031	7/6/01			Lightning	
	17	Iowa Ranch	K826	BLM-BMD	39 53	116 55	702	7/5/01			Lightning	Grazing and wildlife habitatthreatened.
	18	Goose Berry	J389	BLM-WID	40 09	117 32	3,037	7/5/01			Lightning	
	24	West Little Humboldt	X227	BLM-EKD	41 23	116 54	1,669	7/22/01			Lightning	Burned in Little HumboldtWilderness Study Area. Other threats were to Lahonian Cutthroat Trout and wild horse and burro habitat.
	41	Jordan Meadows	J409	BLM-WID	41 50	117 59	347	8/11/01			Lightning	
	42	Dry Mountain	J415	BLM-WID	40 44	119 06	1,680	8/11/01			Lightning	Threat to wild horses and wild life habitat.
	43	Krum	J417	BLM-WID	41 01	117 46	12,084	8/12/01			Lightning	Threat to widlife habitat, power lines, and an explosives storage site.
	44	Quinn River	P44617	USFS-2HTF	41 56	117 34	1,259	8/12/01			Lightning	Big horn sheep habitat and livestock threatened.
	45	Bull Basin	J421	BLM-WID	40 33	119 29	1,500	8/13/01			Lightning	
	46	Spaulding	J422	BLM-WID	40 37	117 55	75,137	8/20/01	Murphy	2	Lightning	Threat to an outbuilding.
	47	Midas	K855	BLM-WID	41 15	117 10	5,000				Lightning	
	53	Ranch	K857	BLM-WID	41 12	117 02	20,000	8/14/01			Lightning	Threat to grazing and critical deer winter range.
	54	Lambert Road	J423	BLM-WID	40 58	117 02	4,734	8/13/01			Lightning	Threat to structures.
	55	Pedroli	J424	BLM-WID	41 00	117 39	726	8/13/01			Lightning	
	56	Kumiva	J428	BLM-WID	40 24	119 08	2,600	8/13/01			Lightning	
	57	Willow Tree	J431	BLM-WID	40 36	117 56	2,000	8/13/01			Lightning	
	58	Golden Eagle	J432	BLM-WID	40 51	118 11	3,099	8/15/01			Lightning	Threat to range lands.
	59	Clear Cræk	J436	BLM-WID	40 47	117 38	53,097	8/19/01	Shell	2	Lightning	Threat to 20 residences and 20-30 outbuildings, as well as grazing lands and im provements, riparian areas, and wildlife habitat.
	60	Peru	J438	BLM-WID	40 25	118 10	1,500	8/16/01			Lightning	Threat to reside nces, structures, and cultural resources in the town of Unionville, along with wildlife habitat (sage grouse and mule deer) and livestock grazing. Destroyed one outbuilding.
	61	Upper Willow	P44660	USFS-2HTF	41 39	117 44	41,831	8/23/01	Saleen	2	Human	Threats to ranch structures, Lahontan Cutthroat Trout habitat, Goshawk habitat, sage grouse, mule deer and bighorn sheep habitat, the Lye Campground, and private and USFS residences.
			]									

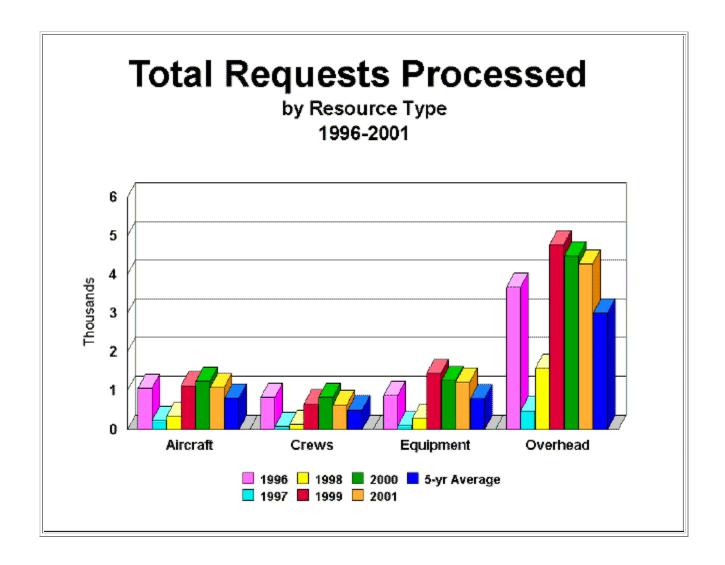
					West	ern Grea	at Basiı	ո Larg	e Fires for 2	2001		
Dispatch	Мар	Incident Name						Conta in		IMT		
Center	Ref #			Agency	Latitude	Longitude	Size	Date	IMT Assigned	Type	1	Significa nt Impa cts
SFIDC	1	Siegel	X613	BLM	38 53	119 34	500	5/15/01			Lightning	Watershed and sage grouse habitatthreatened.
	3	Warrior	X619	BIA	40 00	119 38	6,508	5/30/01	Murphy	2	Lightning	Grazing, sage grouse & bighorn sheep habitat, cultural resources, and 112+ mobile homes and RVs threatened (comm unity of Sutcliffe evacuated).
	4	Martis	D403	USFS	39 21	120 07	14,500	7/1/01	Murphy	2		Town of Floriston, CA, evacuated before fire burned off of the Tahoe NF and into the Humbolt-Toiyabe NF. Other threats were to the Mt. Rose Wilderness, cultural sites, and the Reno watershed.
	36	Pleasant Valley Complex	X689	BLM-CCD	39 20	119 42	775	8/11/01	Conrad (CA)	2	Lightning	Threats to 50 residences, 10 commercial properties, watershed, and wildlife habitat.
	37	Antelope	X693	BLM-CCD	39 43	119 51	900	8/11/01			Lightning	82 structures were threatened, along with wintermule deer habitat, community aesthetics, and the watershed.
	38	Fish	X700	BLM-CCD	39 55	120 02	21,343	8/15/01	Terwilliger (SF)	2	Lightning	Threat to wildlife habitat and grazing lands.
	66	Buggy	X722	BLM-CCD	39 11	118 08	360	9/2/01			Human	
EICC	5	Heusser	K114	BLM-ELD	39 24	114 50	729	6/23/01			Lightning	Old mining cabins and grazing allotments threatened.
	6	Dutch John	K138	BLM-ELD	38 30	114 38	752	7/5/01			Lightning	Sage grouse habitat and large game winter forage threatened. Fire was put in monitor status on 7/4.
	22	Six Mile	K177	BLM-ELD	38 45	115 00	916	7/15/01			Lightning	Burned into the South Egan WSA.
	27	Ibapah	K186	BIA-4ENA	39 58	114 03	2,212	7/27/01			Lightning	
	28	Old Well	K192	BLM-ELD	39 43	115 12	307	7/28/01			Lightning	
	29	Smith Creek	P44602	USFS-4HTF	39 03	115 16	1,592	7/31/01	Lenon	3	Lightning	Mule deer winter range threatened. Burned 486 acres of USFS land and 1,106 acres of BLM land.
	31	Water Canyon	K202	BLM-ELD	39 55	115 36	2,967	8/7/01	Lenon	3	Lightning	Threats to structures and equipment at Bald Mtn. Mine.
	62	Butte	K267	BLM-ELD	40 01	115 07	4,506	8/19/01			Lightning	Wildland Fire Use fire.
	63	Granite	K278	NPS-GBP	38 51	114 14	618	8/31/01			Lightning	Threats to wildlife habitat, watershed, and old growth ponderosa pine.
	64	Robison Well	K285	BLM-ELD	39 52	115 15	1,895	9/5/01			Lightning	Wildland Fire Use
	65	Repeater	K286	BLM-ELD	39 19	115 05	992	8/31/01			Lightning	Threats to repeater sites, private property, Broken Hill Properties mining, range improvements and cultural resources.
	69	Tunnel	Q695	BLM-ELD	38 19	114 23	750	9/22/01			Lightning	Wildland Fire Use





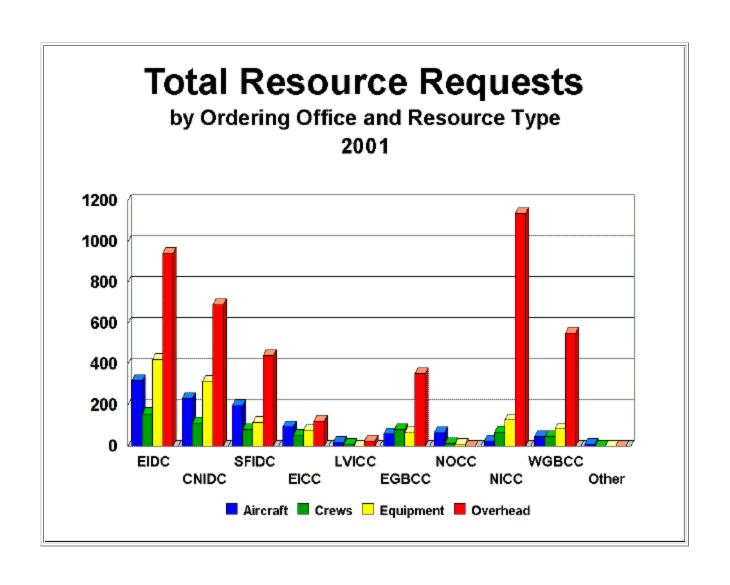
# Western Great Basin Coordination Center

### 2001 Workload Measures



Total Resource Requests Processed by Year

	1996-2001											
Year	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead	Total							
1996	1,060	823	877	3,670	6,430							
1997	240	84	109	501	934							
1998	353	141	304	1,576	2,374							
1999	1,133	660	1,434	4,783	8,010							
2000	1,249	825	1,255	4,499	7,828							
2001	1,081	641	1,233	4,278	7,233							
5-yr. Average	807	507	796	3,006	5,115							



## Total Resource Requests Processed (by Resource Type and Office Placing the Order) 2001

Dispatch Center	Aircraft	Crews	Equipment	Overhead	Total
EIDC	320	159	423	944	1,846
CNIDC	231	116	316	692	1,355
SFIDC	196	82	117	443	838
EICC	95	54	80	123	352
LVICC	21	12	2	27	62
EGBCC	61	83	67	354	565
WGBCC	50	48	88	554	740
NOCC	69	15	10	1	95
NICC	26	72	130	1,139	1,367
Other*	12	0	0	1	13
Totals	1,081	641	1,233	4,278	7,233

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Other" includes the BLM Boise Smokejumpers and Boise Interagency Logistics Center.

Note: All statistics are for orders processed through the Western Great Basin Coordination Center only. They do not include dispatches on home units or to neighboring units under initial attack agreements (if less than 24 hours in duration). Supply orders are not included.